

the centinel



Volume 30, Number 2
Summer, 1982

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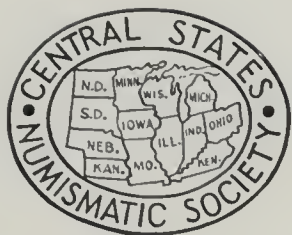
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the centinel

Official Publication/Central States Numismatic Society

VOL. 30, NO. 2

SUMMER, 1982

FROM OUR PAST

~~~~~ SENTINEL ~~~~~

Edited by: Elston G. Bradfield, 6652 N. Seeley Ave., Chicago 45, Illinois

Volume 1

OCTOBER, 1953

Number 1

INTRODUCING THE SENTINEL

The officers of CSNS are planning to issue The Sentinel twice a year, in the Spring immediately before the annual convention, and in the autumn before the interim meeting. Your assistance in making it a newsworthy publication is sought. You are urged to submit short articles describing collecting activities, numismatic news of your locality, or information in the field of coin collecting. The Editor welcomes your personal comments and brief items of interest to fellow numismatists in the Central States area.

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

CSNS is growing. In May, 1952, paid-up members totaled 109. At the time of the 1953 Chicago convention the figure stood at 160. New members since the convention are 72, of which 54 responded to our circular letter sent out July 21 to all registrants at the convention. It is possible another 20 or 30 members may result from that letter. Total paid-ups as of August 15, was 207, with 27 of the old members not yet in the line-up. Pres. Curtis is reaching for 400 by May, 1954 and asks your help in reaching his goal. We once had 400 members, so why not again?

Central States



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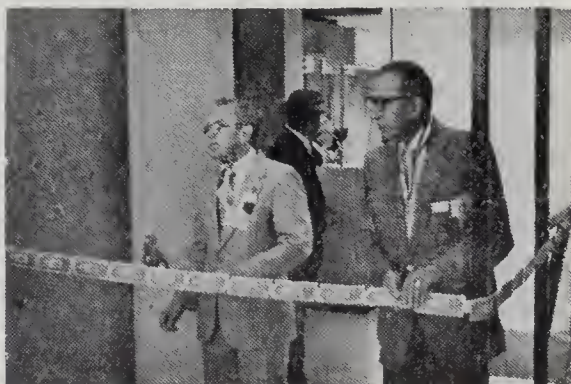
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ABOUT THE COVER

A ribbon of dollar bills was cut to mark the opening of the 43rd Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society. A smiling Ralph Hardman, center, did the honors while, from left, A. P. (Del) Bertschy, Bob Douglas, Dick Yeoman, Orlaine Kittle, Ray Lefman, and a partially hidden Kurt Krueger look on.

However, lest the members think that these affairs always go smoothly, contrast the smiling faces of Ralph Hardman and Ray Lefman on the

cover photo with their concerned looks as they coaxed and cajoled their fellow dignitaries to join them only moments before.



PRESIDENTIAL

COMMENTARY

The Cedar Rapids Show Committee, under the able leadership of Chairman Bob Douglas, did a super job in hosting an outstanding Central States Convention that will set a high standard for future convention sites.

As the numismatic community has come to expect, our Central States Convention boasted one of the highest quality bourses of any show in the nation.

But we should also remember that study and knowledge are a vital part of our hobby, and here the Cedar Rapids Club excelled. The educational programs were enjoyed by all who attended and I hope in the future we will be able to continue this strong educational emphasis that is so much a part of our organization.

Our 1983 Convention will be under the direction of Board member Helen Sedo in Dearborn, Michigan, a state which has long been a leader in the quality and scope of the educational forums at its own numismatic functions; so we will have much to look forward to.

The exhibit area at our Cedar Rapids Convention was itself well worth the trip to Iowa. Our dedicated numismatists who assemble the exhibits at the Annual Convention spend many hours of research in organizing the displays which we see for only a few days each year. I have personally learned much from studying the exhibits, not only at our regional Central States Convention, but also at state and local shows. Let's hope that more attendees at coin shows will avail

themselves of the opportunity for personal growth which can be found so easily in the exhibit areas throughout the region.

Perhaps the most memorable part of the Cedar Rapids Convention, though, was being able to experience at first hand the sincere warmth and friendship for their fellow numismatists displayed by the Cedar Rapids Club. We are indeed fortunate to have such hard working and giving people as part of our organization.

Our outgoing President, Ralph Hardman, deserves a round of applause for his devotion to Central States. It has been a privilege to serve with Ralph and I will look to him for his advice and guidance in my own administration.

As President of the Central States Numismatic Society, I welcome the broadest possible participation by our members in the affairs of the organization. If you have feelings and opinions on matters of concern to Central States, you should always feel free to communicate with the President, or any other officer or Board member. Our addresses can be found in the masthead of **The Centinel**, and I know from my personal association with the members of the Board that they would welcome your communications.

Kurt R. Krueger, President

Augustus Saint-Gaudens designed the Indian Head Eagle, minted from 1907 through 1933.

CEDAR RAPIDS HOSTS 1982 CENTRAL STATES CONVENTION

The population of Cedar Rapids, Iowa swelled during the last week of April and late arrivals found hotel space at a premium, as thousands of eager collectors converged on the Five Seasons Center for the 43rd Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society. The event was hosted by the Cedar Rapids Club and was characterized by smooth organization and plenty of Iowa hospitality.

General Chairman for the annual CSNS conclave was Bob Douglas, who also was a successful candidate for a position on the Board of Governors. Bob joins Bill Quarles of Wisconsin, Florence Schook of Michigan, and Larry Rowe of Nebraska, all of whom were also newly elected to the Board of Governors when the ballot results were announced at the Saturday membership meeting.

The four newly-elected Governors will join the re-elected incumbents who were returned to office by the members: Harold Berk, of Ohio; A. P. (Del) Bertschy, Wisconsin; Rich Hartzog, Illinois; Don Hudson, Indiana; Orlane Kittle, Minnesota; Mike Kolman, Ohio; Ray Lefman, Missouri; Leonard Owen, Nebraska; and Selen Sedo, Michigan.

Kurt Krueger, of Iola, Wisconsin, ran unopposed for the Presidency of Central States, while John Cain was promoted to First Vice President, and Leon Hendrickson moved to the Second Vice Presidency. Marge Owen was returned to office as Secretary-Treasurer, while George Hatie, a former President of the American Numismatic Association, was reappointed by the new Board as CSNS Legal Counsel.



General Chairman Bob Douglas and his wife, Marilyn, receive a well deserved round of applause during the Saturday night banquet.



Award Winners in the Medals, Tokens, and Decorations category were Linda Harp of Milford, Michigan, and Russ Klausch of Jackson, Wisconsin.



Award Winners in the Junior Division were Clinton Korver, of Charles City, Iowa, Allen Shanks of Mason City, Iowa, and completing the sweep of Junior honors by Hawkeye State residents was Kari Ann Field of Cedar Rapids.

1982 43rd Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society — Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Exhibit Award Winners

B. Max Mehl Best of Show Award Vicki Klausch, Jackson, Wisconsin

United States Coins:

First — Lyle Krug Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Second — Richard Hickman Cedar Rapids, Iowa

United States Minor Coins:

First — Don Harden Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Second — Bob Hamling Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Paper Money:

First — Nancy Wilson Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Second — John Wilson Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Third — Glen Baird Ottumwa, Iowa

Foreign Coins After 1500 A. D.:

First — William Spengler Madison, Wisconsin

Second — David Hillery Indianapolis, Indiana

Medals, Tokens, and Decorations:

First — Russell Klausch Jackson, Wisconsin

Second — Linda Harp Milford, Michigan

All Gold Coins:

First — Vicki Klausch Jackson, Wisconsin

Second — John Tilton Bellevue, Iowa

Third — Sam Johnson Sparta, Illinois

Miscellaneous:

First — Bob Rozycki Sycamore, Illinois

Second — Nevin Roberts Marion, Iowa

Third — Milton Heilmar Merenge, Iowa

Junior:

First — Clinton Korver Charles City, Iowa

Second — Allen Shanks Mason City, Iowa

Third — Kari Ann Field Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Non-competitive exhibits:

Marge Owen Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Samuel Johnson Sparta, Illinois

Additional Awards

Elston Bradfield Literary Award:

Leonard M. Owen Omaha, Nebraska

Lowell Owen Award:

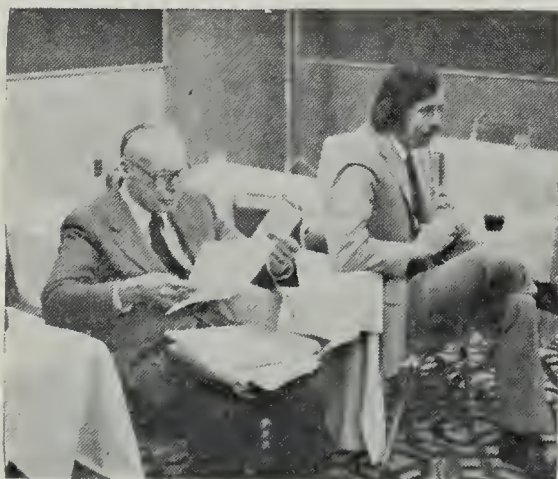
Clinton Korver Charles City, Iowa

Recruiter of the Year: Grant Smallwood

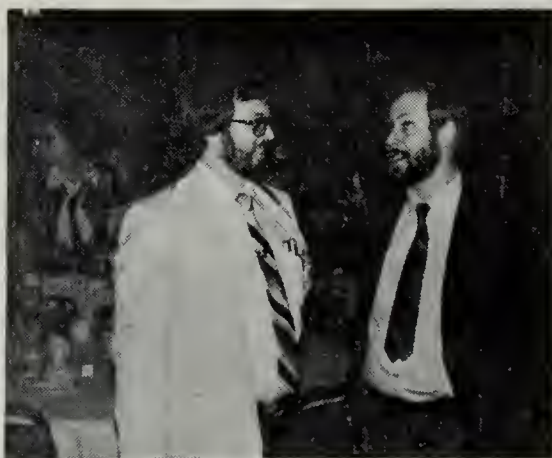
Medal of Merit: Florence Rowe, Larry Rowe, and Don Hudson



Paper Money Exhibit Award winners were Nancy Wilson of Milwaukee, who edged her husband, John, for First Place honors. Glen Baird of Ottumwa, Iowa, captured Third Place.



CSNS Legal Counsel George Hatie does last minute research prior to the opening of the Saturday Board meeting. Dick Grinolds, General Chairman for the 1985 Convention in Minneapolis, looks on.



Harry Collins, left, discusses numismatics with newly elected Central States Governor Bill Quarles prior to the annual banquet. Collins serves as Secretary of the Numismatists of Wisconsin.

The South Carolina Sesquicentennial Commemorative Half Dollar was designed by A. Wolfe Davidson and bears the date 1936.

The portrait of Hugh McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury from 1865 - 1869, appears on \$20 National Bank Notes of the Third Charter Period.

A MESSAGE FROM THE

SECRETARY



I do hope you all enjoyed our Hawk-eye type of hospitality at the annual convention. The Cedar Rapids crew has worked a long time to prepare for this event and it certainly did show. Our warmest thanks to Bob Douglas and all of the people who helped. Business may be a little slow these days, but the spirit among hobbyists hasn't changed.

Again, you will note a long list of persons applying for membership. It proves, once again, that we are still growing. Speaking of that, for the second year, Grant Smallwood won the Recruiter's Award. His number was down a bit from last year, but he still signed up 23 new members. I am curious if anyone can top him — let's give it a try.

You will note that we have a new Board of Governors. Thanks to all who remembered to return their ballots. Although it seems a shame, when over 1200 ballots are mailed, to have only half of them returned for counting. We

also had some criticism on the fact that there were no contest in the officers list. My answer is that I can only put on the ballot those names that are sent to me. It is your duty to nominate persons for these posts.

Dominic Garetto of Winona, Minn., was selected as the recipient for the ANA Summer Seminar Scholarship. I'm so glad we decided to send a young person each year to these seminars; it is one of the best ways we can promote our hobby. Remember, this is an annual contest, so if you have a candidate in mind, see that he or she contacts any one of the Board.

There was a significant measure adopted by the Board at its Sunday session in Cedar Rapids. That is, that Board members will be compensated for their travel and lodging at both convention and interim meetings. This is felt necessary, in view of the rising travel costs.

The Board also passed a resolution to expel from our membership Charles Hileman of St. Louis. The man has been convicted of numerous felony charges, and this action is in accord with the By-Laws.

An award has been set up in the name of Vernon Sheldon, one of the founding fathers of the organization. Mr. Sheldon passed away this year. The exact nature of the award is not decided at this time.

I am happy to report to you that the books have been completely audited by a professional firm and have been found to be in correct balance. On the recommendation of the accounting firm, the Board has applied for a change in our fiscal year. This change

will have our year run from March 1 through February of the following year. This change will make for a lot easier bookkeeping. The old way, two separate reports have had to be made — one for IRS and one for Convention. You will be notified when this change takes effect.

Marjorie M. Owen

October Dates Set for Milwaukee Show

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society will hold its 48th Annual Coin Show on October 8, 9 and 10, at MECCA. MECCA is Milwaukee's newest downtown Exposition and Convention Center, incorporating the most modern trade show and convention facilities in the North Central United States.

MECCA is located at 4th and Kilbourn Avenue, adjacent to the newly constructed Hyatt Regency Hotel. It is convenient to over 4000 hotel and motel rooms and there is parking for 13,000 cars in the area. Food is available in the Convention Hall. MECCA will also be the site for the 1984 Central States Numismatic Society show which will be hosted by the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, to celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

One hundred-fifty dealers will be in Milwaukee to buy, sell and trade, and offer a variety of coins, currency, medals and tokens. Collectors interested in exhibiting in competition for awards may contact David Hunsieker, 319 South Street, West Bend, Wisconsin 53095, or phone (414) 338-6064.

Show hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free and the public is invited. Those who register will receive the Society's 48th Anniversary wooden nickel and numismatic literature.

The 47th annual coin show last October was one of the largest, the finest,

and the most well attended coin shows in the North Central United States in 1981. Somehow, Milwaukee Numismatic Society coin shows always generate wide interest across the country and the Milwaukee group promises the 1982 show will be their greatest ever.

With publicity going out to 30 popular state newspapers and 25 radio stations along with local newspapers and national numismatic publications, the Milwaukee Numismatic Society consistently generates well attended shows.

For additional information, contact: A. P. (Del) Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Ave., Shorewood, Wis. 53211 — or phone (414) 962-5975.

Ray M. Janda

The Numismatic fraternity has lost a most stalwart supporter in the death of Ray M. Janda on May 24, 1982.

Mr. Janda was life member #200 of the American Numismatic Association, and a 47-year member of the Heart of America Numismatic Association, of which he served many years as Secretary and twice as Vice President. He served several terms on the Board of Central States Numismatic Society and as its Vice President for one term.

He served as general chairman of National Coin Week for the ANA in 1958 and served as the co-chairman of many CSNS and local coin club conventions held in Kansas City.

Ray was recognized as the top collection appraiser in the mid-west, and was a much sought judge at shows and conventions.

These are just a few of his accomplishments in his list of acts and deeds aiding collectors, promoting the hobby, encouraging young numismatists, and always being available for speaking at clubs.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. — Ray O. Lefman

"Was the January 21, 1867, Illinois Lottery the Nation's Most Spectacular Ever?"

by Samuel W. Johnson, Jr.

Hello, friends and fellow collectors! At any coin show we attend, there will be several dealers who sell "miscellaneous paper collectables." Some of these items are old stock and bond certificates, bank checks, picture postcards, etc., etc. The proper name for these collectables is "paper Americana."

Obviously, the very existence of these collectables proves that each has a story to tell. This article features just one of the stories, which was researched from a few easily acquired lottery tickets. Take a few minutes and walk into the past with me. Read the spectacular story that these tickets have revealed.

First, we must go to Chicago, Illinois, in the year 1865. Mr. Uranus H. Crosby, a wealthy 35-year-old distiller, decided to contribute to the culture of Chicago by erecting a magnificent opera house. Sacrificing his entire personal fortune, the opera house was built at a cost of \$600,000! It was completed in the spring of 1865 and was considered one of the finest theaters in the nation. The building had 140 feet of frontage on Washington Street. It was built of Athens marble, quarried near Chicago.

Examining this building, after going through the main entrance and up to the second floor, there was a spacious corridor richly ornamented with mirrors and statues. From this corridor, three large doorways led to the auditorium. Splendid upholstery was featured for the seating capacity of 3,000 people.

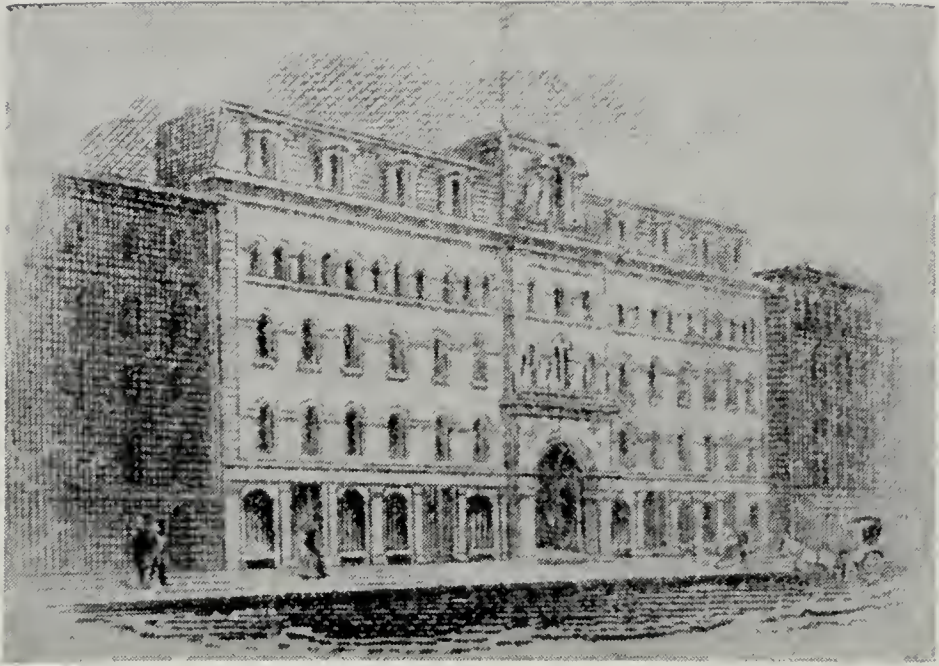
The central dome was 28 feet in diameter and was encircled by panels bearing portraits by recognized masters of music and art. The ceiling was richly decorated and moulded in gilt. The opening night was set for April 17, 1865, but was changed to April 20 because of the assassination of President Lincoln.

However, lacking experience in this venture, Crosby quickly learned that owning and operating an opera house was difficult and very expensive! In the early summer of 1866, less than 14 months after the opera house opened, Crosby announced that he was broke. He also revealed that he intended to dispose of the opera house and some 300 works of art (the paintings, statues, etc.) via a nation-wide lottery!

A company, known as The Crosby Opera House Art Association, was organized and a prospectus was issued on June 18, 1866. This offered an explanation of the entire plan. 210,000 lottery tickets, each numbered and bearing an engraving of the opera house, were printed and offered for sale at the then large sum of \$5.00 each. Purchasers of the tickets also received an engraved copy of a painting exhibited in the opera house.

The lottery tickets were easily sold at first. People thought that they would become wealthy if they won the opera house or one of the other valuable prizes. Many of the other prizes were valued at \$20,000 or more!

The sale of lottery tickets, at many branch offices throughout the nation, continued at a fast pace. It was announced that the drawings would take place on October 11, 1866. However, ticket sales dropped and the drawing was postponed. (Now the author realizes why one of the tickets has a legible October 15



It is easy to see why Chicagoans were proud of the Opera House! Because of its magnificence, it quickly became famous throughout the Midwest and eastern United States. The building would even be impressive today, more than a century later.

“stamp” on the reverse.) The sale of tickets continued. The month of October vanished. Winter came, and yet the sale of tickets continued.

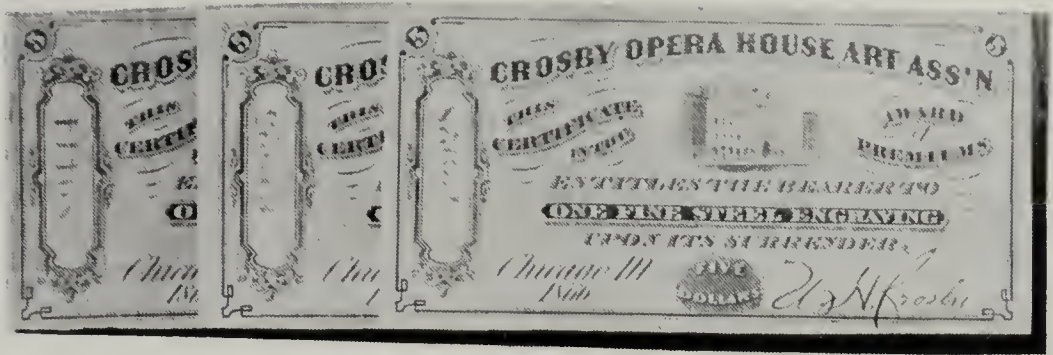
But, at last, the day was set for the ticket drawings — January 21, 1867. Chicago became a mad house the day and night before the lottery drawing. Nearly every train to the town came heavily loaded with strangers, who rushed to purchase tickets. In a short time, these people (and their tell tale engravings) seemingly were everywhere!

The hotels of Chicago were packed, as were the armory and many other buildings capable of holding people overnight. Many people roamed the streets all night, stopping now and then to “take a little drink” and chat with each other. Some ticket holders sat on steps, others on curb stones. Many were drunk and laid in the snow and cold against buildings or in alleys!

However, when morning came (and like an army) all swarmed from their nooks and crannies, alleys, hotels, etc., and flocked to the opera house! Each person was confident that they held the lucky numbers. The opera house quickly became packed with people.

Author’s Notation: Approximately 184,500 tickets were sold, making revenue for the lottery over \$920,000! This was a stunning total for this era. Ironically, the remaining 25,500 tickets, held by Mr. Crosby and representing about 12 per cent of the total, were also eligible for the drawings! (We’ll have to wonder what would have happened had Crosby won the opera house!)

Then came the moment when the ticket drawings were to begin! Expectation had become tremendous! Two hollow “wheels”, one large and one small, were made for the lottery. Into the large wheel were placed the 210,000 duplicate numbered lottery tickets. Three hundred-two tickets, a prize listed on each one, were placed in the small wheel. The two wheels were on opposite ends of the stage, and the tickets were thoroughly mixed by turning the wheels.



Pictured are three of the actual lottery tickets (actual size 2 x 4 inches.) Surprisingly, these were acquired (with very little searching) from dealers in New York, California, and Illinois. Noted dealer Mr. Don Fisher of Currency Unlimited, Decatur, Ill., stated that he has seen perhaps 50 of these tickets during the past decade.

One at a time, tickets were drawn for the prizes from the smaller wheel. Then, from the large wheel, a numbered lottery ticket was drawn. To each numbered lottery ticket went the previously drawn prize. As prize after prize was drawn and matched up, the numbers of the winning tickets were immediately telegraphed throughout the nation.

A total of 112 prizes were drawn, and then it happened! The grand prize was called! This was to be the new owner of the opera house! The numbered ticket was then drawn and it was 58,600. Everyone screamed loudly, demanding to know who the winner was. But, calmly, the drawing continued. (This was done to protect the identity and location of the opera house winner until he could be notified.)

"58,600" had been purchased by Mr. Abraham H. Lee of Prairie Du Rocher, Illinois, and it was the only ticket Lee had purchased; (This very small southwestern Illinois town is located 47 miles from St. Louis and has a current population of 700.) There was no telegraph or telephones in Prairie Du Rocher, so a notice that Lee was the winner was wired to St. Louis and then relayed to Belleville, Illinois. From there, a messenger was dispatched on horseback to notify Mr. Lee.

Although lengthily, Lee's reactions can best be described by the following letter he wrote to his brother-in-law. It was written the morning after he knew that "Crosby's Opera House" was his. Lee was no "hick", friends; In addition to being moderately wealthy, this letter reveals that he was highly educated. It also reveals a wide scope of emotions and gives us all an insight to a lottery winner's thoughts and feelings. (Re-read it a few times!)

Prairie Du Rocher — January 22, 1867

Dear Daniel,

I was very much astonished last evening at about 7 o'clock by the sudden appearance of two men in our bedroom, where I sat reading by the side of my wife's bed, with the sudden announcement that I had drawn the opera house at Chicago. I don't think that I was at all excited by the report. I had a slight acquaintance with Mr. Burroughs, one of the men; the other, from Waterloo, was an entire stranger. The only document they brought was a copy of the Missouri Republican of the 22nd, which had so many accounts of the matter that I hardly dared believe any of them.

However, I bore the congratulations of my new friends with commendable fortitude, and dismissed them with suitable acknowledgements. After the lapse of half an hour, I was the recipient of sundry calls from the neighbors and friends in the village, all highly excited. The report had spread like lightning, and the whole neighborhood was in an uproar. I bore a hand in receiving the company, answered their numerous questions with as much dignity as I could assume, and, in a state of semi-consciousness of what it all meant, started off to communicate with Frank on the curious appearance of things. I had been there but a few minutes when a "halloo" was heard at the door for Mr. Lee! Is Mr. Lee here? Well, I went to the door and acknowledged that I was that person, and went at him with the question "What do you want?" Why, said the poor frozen fellow, I have a dispatch for you from Belleville. You have drawn the opera house. I received the document and read as follows:

"A. H. Lee, Prairie Du Rocher, Illinois
Crosby's Opera House yours. Hold your ticket.
(signed) J. B. Chamberlain"

I mentally returned thanks to my new friend, Chamberlain, and went home considerably perplexed; not yet conscious of the reason for my being in the hands of so many new friends, who seemed to show so strong a desire to pay me attention. But a happy thought struck me. I will look at my ticket and see if there is anything in it. Well, Daniel, when I saw it, there the figures stood as plain as day — 58,600 and no mistake.

Meanwhile, Joe and Ma had got hold of the matter, and to my unbounded astonishment, received it as a fact. I had undressed myself, as it was growing late, and was sitting in my long-tailed nightshirt discussing the events of the evening, when a thunderous knock at the door announced that all was not over yet. Ma went to the door and quickly returned with the intelligence that a man wanted to see me, and that I had drawn Crosby's Opera House. "The devil," said I, "I wish they had to swallow the opera house!" After dressing, I went down to receive the new messenger.

He bowed to me, I thought, as though I were a man of property, and in suitable style delivered his credentials. I looked carefully over a very well written letter of six lines and derived such information as induced me to believe that the lucky holder of 58,600 was about to become a man of property. Sure enough, for this letter came from Messrs. Pettes & Leathe, sent as they say by instructions of Mr. Crosby himself. I found this last messenger pretty well informed, and after seeing him eat a hearty supper and arrive at the condition wherein people are generally confidential and good natured, I took him aside and asked him if it were a fact and no mistake. He gave me the most solemn assurance that there was no mistake about it.

Very well, Daniel, as I am really the possessor of ticket number 58,600, I suppose the opera house belongs to me, and I just say to you that it is for sale. I suppose that somebody wants to buy it, and I ask you to sell it for me. It is impossible for me to leave my wife in her present condition, or I would go up to you at once. I must wait until she gets better, whether I secure the opera house or not.

Your friend and brother,
A. H. Lee

The same day Lee wrote the following letter to Crosby in Chicago:

Prairie Du Rocher, Illinois

January 22, 1867

U. H. Crosby, Esq., Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir: I received a dispatch last evening, via Belleville, and a note by courier, from Messrs. Pettes & Leathe of St. Louis, acquainting me with the very interesting fact that my ticket No. 58,600 had drawn the opera house. It would seem that a sight of the ticket is of some consequence, as several parties from St. Louis have already been here to have a look at it. I am sorry to say that I am unable to leave home just now on account of the dangerous illness of my wife, which is a great drawback to the pleasure which I should enjoy at this marvelous piece of good fortune. I have written to Daniel G. Taylor of St. Louis to answer all questions for me concerning the business, until such time as I may be able to leave home. In the meantime, I remain your very obligated and humble servant.

A. H. Lee

On the 25th of January, Lee's wife was feeling somewhat better and he left for Chicago. Lee requested that all publicity be avoided. While meeting with Crosby, Lee offered to sell his winning lottery ticket to Crosby for \$200,000 cash! Crosby immediately accepted the offer!

Before Lee went back to Prairie Du Rocher, he wrote the following letter to the Chicago newspaper. (The report that Lee had "sold the opera house back to Crosby" caused an uproar. Many people began to verbally insult Mr. Crosby and a few even threatened him! They thought that Mr. Crosby had somehow planned and intimidated Lee into selling. However, this was not true! Here is the letter which dispels any doubt about Crosby's honesty.)

Chicago, Illinois

January 26, 1867

To the Editor of the Chicago Republican:

I desire to publicly acknowledge the obligations I am under to Mr. U. H. Crosby for the promptitude and courtesy with which he has dealt with me as the "drawer" of the opera house. As soon as the books were unsealed by the committee and my name discovered, a telegraphic message was sent by him to Pettes & Leathe, the agents of the association at St. Louis, to put a faithful man on horseback and at once notify me of the fact, and this was done without expense to me.

The illness of my wife prevented me from coming sooner to Chicago. It was my wish and request that I might come here and transact my business with Mr. Crosby without being the object of unpleasant notoriety and without having my name heralded in the newspapers. I feel deeply indebted to him for the considerate manner in which the request was observed, especially since it has caused him some embarrassment as well as occasioned invidious comment.

Feeling that the opera house should properly be owned by Mr. Crosby, I made him the offer to sell it to him for \$200,000, and the offer was accepted in a spirit which was most gratifying and the money promptly paid me. My connection with the opera house having thus happily terminated.

I am, very respectfully and sincerely yours, A. H. Lee

Lee then quietly went back home with his money. And Crosby? Wow! He was once more in possession of the opera house and had about \$600,000 cash to boot! (The remaining \$120,000 was for expenses — printing of the lottery tickets, advertising, ticket sales commissions, etc.)

In the spring of 1867, Lee built a beautiful home in Prairie Du Rocher with part of his winnings. It was very large, three stories high, had wide porches,



Mr. Uranus H. Crosby, who was very wealthy in 1864 even by today's standards, became "flat broke" in 1866 because of the opera house. However, the lottery and lottery winner's stunning decision in 1867 made Mr. Crosby wealthier than ever before. (Photo courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.)



Mr. Abraham H. Lee, moderately wealthy himself, disdained the ownership of the opera house. Lee sold his winning lottery ticket back to Crosby for a bargain price Mr. Crosby absolutely couldn't refuse! (Photo courtesy of the book "History of Monroe, Randolph, and Perry Counties, Illinois.")

a mansard roof, stained glass windows with shutters, and an elaborately finished interior. "Communications" in the home featured "talking tubes" between rooms and floors. (Similar to the tubes between the bridge and engine room of older ships.)

The main room of the "mansion" was nicknamed "Maple Hall" because of the maple paneling. The house was built near the bluff in Prairie Du Rocher and was surrounded by an iron fence.

Lee invested part of his fortune in the plate glass industry in Missouri, and in gold and silver mines in the western United States.

Unfortunately, Lee's wife died at age 40 on September 20, 1867, only eight months after her husband won "Crosby's Opera House". While traveling in Cincinnati, Ohio, Lee died suddenly (heart attack?) on July 23, 1869. He had only 30 months to enjoy his spectacular fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are buried in Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis. His remaining fortune went to his children.

The (now legendary) mansion was quickly purchased by Mr. F. W. Brickey, Lee's partner in the Prairie Du Rocher flour and grist mill. After that, the home was known as "Brickey House". It was noted many years for its hospitality and sociability.

Before Mr. Brickey died, he expressed a wish that if none of his children chose to live in the home it should be given to a charitable organization. He further stated that if this was not done, the home was to remain unoccupied or be dismantled. (The Brickey family burial plot is located near the bluff, not



This is the (once) beautiful mansion Lee built with part of his \$200,000 winnings. Sadly, the home and many of the original interior furnishings burned to the ground in 1970. Today the actual cause of the fire remains a mystery. The loss of the legendary mansion is considered a tragedy by many Prairie Du Rocher residents. Most believe it was arson by vandals.

much more than a stone's throw away from the former location of the mansion.)

Although several of Brickey's descendants lived in the home, none lived there after about 1935. Thereafter a caretaker lived in the home until about 1950. Sadly, the mansion then stood empty and neglected until the tragic fire in 1970.

However, Abraham Lee and the legendary mansion will never be forgotten! During October of 1981, the first "Maple Hall Country Fair and Apple Fest" was held in Prairie Du Rocher at (and around) the former location of the mansion. This celebration features arts and crafts, old-time cooking, and music by a noted band. As stated previously, friends, "Maple Hall" was the main room of Lee's mansion and the nickname of the home itself!

What happened to the Crosby Opera House? On October 8 - 9, 1871, one of the most disastrous fires in the nation's history struck the city of Chicago. In a three and one-half square mile area, about 17,450 buildings were destroyed. Sadly, friends, Crosby's Opera House was one of these buildings. Its destruction was unbelievably total!

Ironically, the opera house had been remodeled in the summer and fall of 1871 and had been due to reopen on October 9! Sometime prior to this, the opera house changed hands and was no longer owned by Mr. Uranus Crosby. Although as a financial investment the opera house was never successful, it may have been if given another chance!

The author was unable to locate further information concerning Mr. Crosby, but because of known photographs, believes that he lived until the turn of the century. Later photographs of Crosby reveal a distinguished wealthy-looking gentleman.

So today, friends, the author ponders the question, "Was this Illinois lottery the nation's most spectacular ever?" The total revenue of this lottery (\$920,000) would be equivalent to approximately 45 million dollars today! In 1867, land sold for \$15 an acre, cattle were \$10 a head, and school teachers earned \$25 a month! (Of course, these and many other prices varied, but they do give you a general comparison.) Therefore, Abraham Lee's \$200,000 lump sum win could easily compare to 10 million dollars today! Obviously, the Crosby Opera House Lottery was incredibly spectacular!

In November, 1981, a man won five million dollars in the New York State Lottery. (To be paid in installments over 20 years.) According to television and



Prairie Du Rocher resident and historian Mr. Clyde Franklin is standing in front of the mansion's former location. As seen, nothing remains today except the iron fence and gate, the sidewalk, and one outbuilding. The author "hit the jackpot" when requesting information from Mr. Franklin, as his historical knowledge and "hot tip" led to the acquisition of several important items for this article.

newspaper reports, this man was "the biggest lottery winner ever!" (We all know that he wasn't, technically, don't we?) "The biggest lottery winner ever" may very well have lived in Prairie Du Rocher, Illinois, over 115 years ago. Can anyone disagree?



Stunningly, this photograph reveals the Crosby Opera House ruins after the great Chicago fire of 1871. The short-lived opera house was spectacularly born and died the same way. However, it was one of the forerunners of the great city's culture of today. (This photograph is a courtesy of A. T. Andreas, History of Chicago, Vol. 2, 1884-1886.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Although an amateur author, I was again somewhat surprised with the response to my information requests. Without exception, all of these individuals did everything possible to help me with this article. I thank each of them, for without their assistance this article would not be as complete as it is or may never have been written.

1. The Chicago Historical Society, and Ms. Jane Stevens and Mr. Larry A. Vickochil of the Graphics Collection Dept. The negative code number for Mr. Crosby's photograph is ICHI-09923.
2. The late Mr. John Allen and his book "Legends and Lore of Southern Illinois," published in 1963.
3. The book "History of Monroe, Randolph, and Perry Counties, Illinois," published in 1883.

4. Mr. Don Fisher, Decatur, Illinois.
5. Photography by the Chicago Historical Society, Mr. Tim Buss of Sparta, Illinois, and Mrs. Lovita Ingram, Percy, Illinois.
6. The Randolph County Historical Society and Historian Ms. Jane Fullerton.
7. Prairie Du Rocher residents Mr. Clyde Franklin, Mr. Tim Barbeau, and Mr. Terry Barbeau.
8. A. T. Andreas, "History of Chicago", Volume II, dated 1884-1886.
9. "History of the Crosby Opera House", written February 6, 1931, author unknown, provided by Chicago Historical Society.
10. The Chicago Historical Society and its entire membership.



This impressive pencil sketch of the mansion was drawn by Prairie Du Rocher resident Mr. Tim Barbeau when he was 11 years old! The actual size of the sketch is 12 x 18 inches, and it was drawn shortly before the mansion's destruction by fire. This unique drawing must obviously now be considered a valuable historic item.

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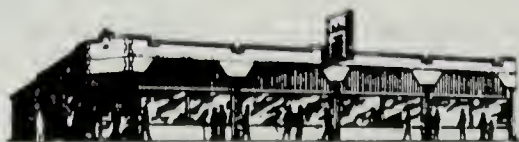
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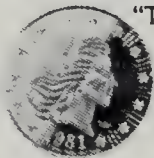
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XF/A.U. Early Morgans (No. 1921)	\$ 340
Sliver (A.U.) Peace (1921-1935)	\$ 280
Mixed Date (Circ. 1878-1935)	\$ 260

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(20 coins per roll)	Per Roll
Circ. Barbers (Full Rims 1892-1916)	\$ 100
XF/A.U. Walking Liberties (1916-1947)	\$ 180
B.U. Walking Liberties (1940-1947)	\$ 120
B.U. Franklins (1957-1963)	\$ 140
B.U. JFK's 1964 (last 90% silver)	\$ 100
Proof Franklins (1957-1963)	\$ 200
Proof JFK's 1964 (first JFK half)	\$ 200

Quarter Dollar Specials

(40 coins per roll)	Per Roll
Circ. Barbers (full nms) 1892-1916	\$ 100
Standing Liberty (full nms) 1916-1930	\$ 90
B.U. Washingtons (1932-1964)	\$ 90
Proof Washingtons (1957-1964)	\$ 140

Dime Specials (50 coins per roll)

(50 coins per roll)	Per Roll
Circ. Barbers (full rims) 1892-1916	\$ 55
XF/A.U. Mercury Dimes (1916-1945)	\$ 100
B.U. Mercury Dimes (1939-1945)	\$ 800
B.U. Roosevelt Dimes (1946-1964)	\$ 50
Proof Roosevelt Dimes (1959-1964)	\$ 100

Miscellaneous Rolls

Indian Head Cents (VG or better)	\$ 40
Lincoln Cents (1909-1958) 50 pcs	\$ 2
Proof Lincoln Cents (1957-64) 50 pcs	\$ 50
Liberty Head 'V' Nickels (40 pcs)	\$ 25
B.U. Buffalo Nickels (1935-36) 40 pcs	\$ 1000
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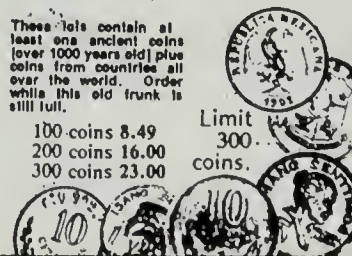
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TERRITORIAL BANKING IN NEBRASKA

BY
LEONARD M. OWEN



A Descriptive Listing of All Nebraska Obsolete Bank Notes: Part II

Mr. D. C. Wismer started a descriptive listing of all obsolete bank notes in June of 1922. These lists appeared in *The Numismatist* over a period of several years. The Nebraska listing appeared in the March issue of 1928, pages 139 through 146. Mr. James L. McKee published a book in 1970 which up-dated Mr. Wismer's listing with the addition of several notes that were unknown at the time Mr. Wismer published his listing.

Mr. Gerome Walton published a book in 1978 that was a further up-date to the listing of Nebraska obsolete notes. This book is the finest book that has ever been written on this subject as it is an illustrative listing rather than a descriptive listing. Several other people have written articles about Nebraska obsolete notes over the past many years. A few notes have appeared in the descriptive listings that have been published, but have not been located by this researcher. These notes may still appear at a later date and can be the subject for future articles.

This listing will include all of the Obsolete notes circulated by the various Banks and the Omaha City notes. The Omaha City notes were not actually Bank issues but they did circulate in abundance during the time when the bank issues were in circulation. Private issue notes will not be included. All known notes will be described by major varieties, with a notation of the minor varieties. The note numbers, for the most part, are the same as the numbers in Mr. Walton's book, as this seems the most logical method of numbering. A very few rarity numbers have been changed as it now appears that a few notes are more rare than they were thought to be.

Abbreviations

R	Right end of note.
C	Central part of note.
L	Left end of note.
UR	Upper half of right end of note.
LL	Lower half of left end of note.
ETC.	
pp	Plate position.

Rarity

R1	Over 200 notes.
R2	101 - 200
R3	51 - 100
R4	26 - 50
R5	11 - 25
R6	6 - 10
R7	1 - 5

OMAHA CITY — THE BANK OF NEBRASKA

1. \$1 pp A-B, LR., Female portrait, 1 above. UL., Indians hunting buffaloes, Indian on horseback in foreground spearing buffalo, 1 below.
Overprint, Large 1 in red. R. 7
This note is known with the following:
A. Stamped, B. F. Allen Banker Des Moines, Iowa, in blue.
2. \$2 pp A, LR., Female portrait. 2 above. UL., Farmer feeding hogs, horse in background, 2 to left, 2 below.
Overprint, Large 2 in red. R. 7
3. \$5 pp (none), LR., Female portrait, 5 above. LL., Large plaque of Washington, man with rifle to left, Liberty with pole and cap to right, two Indians in foreground, **FIVE** above.
Overprint, Large 5 in red. R. 7
4. \$10 pp (none), LR., Man chopping a tree, two oxen and two children in foreground, 10 above. LL., Two Indians on horseback hunting buffalo, 10 above. C., Portrait of female.
Overprint, none. This note known in proof only. R. 7
Notes #1, #2, #3 and #4 printed by Toppan, Carpenter, and Company.
5. \$1 pp A, LR., Portrait of Webster, 1 above. L., "Morning", bare breasted female, train, steam boat, factory, river, cow, sheep, and houses. UC., Woman with sickle and sheaf of grain.
Overprint, Large **ONE** in red. R. 5
6. \$2 pp A, LR., Seated Indian with axe, 2 above. LL., Man on horseback, 2 above. C., Indian standing with gun, Indian seated with battle axe, Indian woman and tent, train and buildings in background.
Overprint, Large **TWO** in red. R. 5
Notes #5 and #6 printed by Bald, Cousland, and Company.

OMAHA CITY — THE BROWNVILLE BANK AND LAND COMPANY

1. \$3 pp A, LR., Two children in figure 3, 3 above. LL., Wood chopper with dog and axe, 3 above. C., Steam boats on river with city in background.
Overprint, General overprint in red lathework. Large ornate 3 at UCL, Outline of large **THREE**, and small **THREE** many times at lower center, all in red. R. 4
2. \$5 pp A-B, LR., Two women, one standing and one kneeling with scythe and sheaves of grain, 5 above. LL., Family group, man, woman, two children, dog, and chicken, **V** over **FIVE** above. UC., Man in boat, woman, boy, and five men on raft, another raft in background.
Overprint, General overprint in red lathework. Outline of **FIVE** and small **FIVE** many times at lower center, all in red. R. 4
3. \$10 pp A, LR., Woman seated with United States shield, 10 above. U and L Center, Harvesting scene, men working at cutting, binding, and loading grain on wagon, man on horseback with dog at left. Left end of note, **TEN** and **X** over small **TEN** many times.
Overprint, Large **TEN** and small **TEN DOLLARS** many times at lower center in red. R. 5
4. \$3 pp A, Same as #1 but overprint and background color has been changed to green. R. 5
5. \$5 pp A-B, Same as #2 but overprint and background color has been changed to green. R. 5

6. \$10 pp A, Same as #3 but overprint color has been changed to green. R. 5
 7. \$3 pp A, Same as #1 but overprint and background color has been changed to brown. R. 5
 8. \$5 pp A-B, Same as #2 but overprint and background color has been changed to brown. R. 5
 9. \$10 pp A, Same as #3 but overprint color has been changed to brown. R. 5
 10. \$3 pp A, Same as #1 but overprint and background color has been changed to yellow. R. 7
 11. \$5 pp A-B, Same as #2 but overprint and background color has been changed to yellow. R. 7
 12. \$10 pp A, Same as #3 but overprint color has been changed to yellow. R. 7
 13. \$3 pp A, Similar to #1 but all lathework and overprint color has been removed. R. 6
 14. \$5 pp A-B, Similar to #2 but all lathework and overprint color has been removed. R. 6
 15. \$10 pp A, Similar to #3 but all overprint color has been removed. R. 7
- All notes printed by Danforth, Wright, and Company.

OMAHA CITY — THE NEBRASKA LAND AND BANKING COMPANY

1. \$1 pp A-B-C, LR., Portrait of man, 1 above. LL., Portrait of lady, 1 above. UC., Cattle in stream, trees.
Overprint, Large **ONE** in red. R. 7
 2. \$2 pp A, LR., Old man and boy with dog seated by tree, 2 above. LL., Portrait of girl in ornate filigree, 2 above.
Overprint, Large 2 in red. R. 7
- All notes printed by Danforth, Wright, and Company.

OMAHA CITY — THE CITY OF OMAHA

1. \$1 pp A-B, LR., Large ornate 1, **ONE** above. LL., Young girl, 1 in red die counter above. UC., Two Indians on horseback, train in background.
Overprint, Outline of large **ONE**, die counter, and small **ONE** many times in background, all in red. R. 1
 2. \$3 pp A, LR., Indian spearing fish from rocks, waterfall in background, 3 above. UL., Head of girl in ornate 3. LL., Liberty and Justice seated on either side of a shield, ships, factories, and train in background.
Overprint, Outline of large 3, die counter, and small **THREE** many times in background, all in red. R. 1
 3. \$5 pp A, UL., Man with telescope looking at ships, other men moving crates, 5 below. LR., Head of deer, 5 above. Portrait of girl to left, Nebraska Territory above.
Overprint, Outline of large 5, die counter, and small **FIVE** many times in background, all in red. R. 1
- All notes printed by Wellstood, Hay and Whiting.

OMAHA CITY — THE OMAHA AND CHICAGO BANK

1. \$1 pp A, L., Seated female, **ONE** over 1 below, 1 above. UC., Paddle wheel steamboats. LR., Seated lady with basket of vegetables, **ONE** over 1 above.
Overprint, Ornate 1 in red die counter and red lathework at LC. R. 7

2. \$2 pp A, LL., **TWO** over 2, 2 above. UC., Group of people watching passing train, **TWO** and **TWO** above. LR., Large dog, 2 above.
Overprint, Red 2 at UL., and red 2 at UR. Red lathework at LC. R. 7
3. \$5 pp A, UL., Four miners at work in mine, 5 below. UR., **FIVE** over V, 5 below.
Overprint, Large **FIVE** in red, UC., red die counter with white 5, LC., Small **FIVE** many times in red. R. 7
4. \$10 pp A, LL., Portrait of young girl, 10 above. LR., Lady facing left, 10 above. UC., Man watering horse from a bucket, man seated on barrel, child, pig, dog, rooster, and pole fence.
Overprint, Large **TEN** in red, white **X** on red die counter at UL and UR, small **TEN** many times in red at LC. R. 7
5. \$2 pp A, UL., Men on raft with steamboat in background, **TWO** below. UC., Vignette of girl, Nebraska Territory above. LR., Vignette of George Washington, 2 above.
Overprint, none, known in proof only. R. 7
6. \$5 pp A, LL., Two Indians on cliff looking into a valley below, 5 above. UC., Revolutionary War scene showing battle between the British troops and the Revolutionaries, Nebraska Territory above. LR., Female portrait, 5 above.
Overprint, none, known in proof only. R. 7
Notes #1, #2, #3 and #4 printed by American Bank Note Company.
Notes #5 and #6 printed by Bald, Cousland, and Company.

OMAHA — THE OMAHA CITY BANK AND LAND COMPANY

1. \$1 pp A-B, UL., Farmer with scythe, **ONE** below. LR., Boy with rabbits, 1 above. UC., Two Indians near tree watching deer in valley below.
Overprint, Large **ONE** in red, Large 1 outlined in red at UL and UR, small **ONE DOLLAR** many times in red at LC. R. 4
2. \$2 pp A, LL., Portrait of girl with chickens, 2 above. UC., Two horses at water trough, two men, wagon and mill. LR., Lady with flowers, 2 above.
Overprint, Large **TWO** outlined in red. LC., Small **TWO DOLLARS** many times in red. R. 4
3. \$5 pp A, LL., Portrait of Buchanan, 5 above. LR., Portrait of girl, 5 above. LC., River steamboats, city in background.
Overprint, Large **FIVE** outlined in red. UC., Small **FIVE DOLLARS** many times in red. R. 5
BACKGROUND, all notes have lathework in red.
All notes printed by American Bank Note Company — Jocelyn, Draper, Welsh, and Company.

OMAHA — THE WESTERN EXCHANGE AND LAND COMPANY

1. \$1 pp A-B, L., Man holding large ornate figure 1, **ONE** below, Nebraska Territory above. R., 1 with **ONE** above and **ONE** below. UC., Woman seated with large U. S. dollar.
Overprint, Large **ONE** in red. R. 7
2. \$5 pp A, L., Portrait of girl, **FIVE** above, **FIVE** below. R., Two seated women, 5 above, 5 below. UC., Two men with pile of grain, children, dog, barn, and horse in background.
Overprint, Large **FIVE** in red. R. 7

3. \$10 pp A-B, LL., Group of women with anchor, etc., **TEN** above. LR., Large **X**, **10** above. UC., Farmer with team of horses and plow. Overprint, Large **TEN** in red. R. 7
All notes printed by Wellstood, Hay, and Whiting.

OMAHA — THE WESTERN EXCHANGE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

1. \$1 pp A, LL., Portrait of Stephen Douglas, **1** above. LR., Indian woman and child seated by a stream, **1** and **ONE** above. UC., Indian watching buffaloes and train on the prairie. Overprint, Large **ONE** in red. R. 4
2. \$2 pp A, LL., Portrait of Lewis Cass, **2** above. LR., Indian reclining by tent, **Two** and **2** above. UC., Indian with spear holding horse, passenger train and buffaloes in background. Overprint, Large **TWO** in red. R. 4
3. \$3 pp A, LL., Portrait of Gen. Lafayette, **3** over **DOLLARS** above. LR., Milkmaid with bucket, cows and buildings, **3** above. LC., Indian on horseback hunting buffalo with bow and arrow, hills in background. Overprint, Large **THREE** in red. R. 4
This note is known with the following:
A. Stamped, and written, "Kewanee".
4. \$5 pp A, LL., Portrait of Daniel Webster, **5** above. LR., Franklin Pierce, **5** above. UC., Steamboat **OMAHA**, hills in background. Overprint, Large **FIVE** in red. R. 4
5. \$10 pp A, L., **TEN** below, **X** above. LR., **TEN** over **X**, **10** above. C., Seated Indian with plow, sickle, sheaves, house, hills and river in background. Overprint, Large **TEN** in red. R. 7
6. \$20 pp A, L., **TWENTY**. UL., **XX**. UR., **20**. LC., Three seated women, Ceres in center. Overprint, **XX** on red die counter at LL, and LR. R. 7
7. \$1 pp A, Same as #1 but printed: Deposited by Bishop Hill Colony. R. 1
8. \$2 pp A, Same as #2 but printed: Deposited by Bishop Hill Colony. R. 1
9. \$3 pp A, Same as #3 but printed: Deposited by Bishop Hill Colony. R. 1
10. \$5 pp A, Same as #4 but printed: Deposited by Bishop Hill Colony. R. 1
All notes printed by Danforth, Wright, and Company.

TEKAMAH — THE BANK OF TEKAMA

1. \$1 pp A-B, LL., Two Indians on cliff looking at city below, **1** above. LR., Hunter kneeling at river, drinking water from hand, **1** above. UC., Shield with seated Indian at right with battle axe, seated female at left with wand, shield, and flag, ships, tents, etc. in background. Overprint, Large **ONE** in red. R. 3
This note is known with the following:
A. Stamped, "St. Louis".
2. \$2 pp A, LL., Train coming around curve, house and hills in background, **TWO** above. LR., Justice seated, **2** above. UC., Cattle and sheep. Overprint, Large **TWO** in red. R. 3
This note is known with the following:
A. Stamped, "St. Louis".

3. \$5 pp A, LL., Portrait of James Buchanan, 5 above. LR., Seated female, 5 above. UC., Eagle with spread wings on shield, river in background with raft to the right and steamboat to the left.
 Overprint, Large **FIVE** in red. R. 3
 This note is known with the following:
 A. Stamped, "St. Louis".
 All notes printed by Baldwin, Bald, and Cousland.

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Bank	Rarity
Bank of Dakota — Dakota City 1A-1B-2A-5A Unsigned and Undated Printed by: Danforth, Wright and Co.	7 (Possibly Unique)
Corn Exchange Bank — DeSoto 1A-1B-2A-3A Green Overprint Printed date: December 12, 1860 Printed by: National Bank Note Company.	7 (Possibly Unique)
Bank of Florence — Florence 1A-2A-3A-5A Unsigned and Undated Printed by: Toppan, Carpenter, and Co.	1
Bank of Nebraska — Omaha City 1A-1B-2A-5A Unsigned and Undated Printed by: Toppan, Carpenter, and Co.	7 (Possibly Unique)
Brownville Bank and Land Company — Omaha 3A-5A-5B-10A Brown Overprint Yellow Overprint Signed and Dated Printed date: September 1, 1857 Printed by: Danforth, Wright and Co.	5 (Possibly Unique) 7
City of Omaha — Omaha City 1A-1B-3A-5A Signed and Dated Printed by: Wellstood, Hay, and Whiting.	3
Omaha and Chicago Bank — Omaha City 1A-2A-5A-10A Unsigned Printed date: May 1, 1861 Printed by: American Bank Note Company.	7 (Possibly Unique)
Omaha City Bank and Land Company — Omaha 1A-1B-2A-5A Unsigned and Undated Printed by: American Bank Note Company — Jocelyn, Draper, Welsh, and Co.	7

Western Exchange Fire and Marine Insurance Co. — Omaha City

(Bishop Hill issue)

1A-2A-3A-5A

Two Signatures

4

One Signature

3

Unsigned

1

Printed date: November 2, 1857

Printed by: Danforth, Wright and Co.

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The research of the information used to write this series of articles has been an on going labor of love over a period of many years. Many people have assisted me in the gathering of this information as well as a few institutions. The following is a list of a few of the institutions and individuals that come to mind:

The Omaha Public Library, the Philamatic Center at Boys Town, the State Historical Society at Lincoln, and the following individuals: Fred Marckhoff, Warren S. Henderson, Norman Shultz, Gene Mueller, Mrs. Belva Stanley, Miss Edith L. Neale, Melvin D. Stark, Leo J. Eckert, Lowell L. Owen, James L. McKee, and last but not least, Gerome Walton. Gerome always shared his knowledge and was very helpful with correspondence and phone calls when a comparison of information was needed.

I would be remiss if I did not also mention my wife, Gloria Owen, who has been my chief proofreader on all of the articles I have written over the years, and has assisted me in other ways too numerous to mention.

Many other people have assisted me in my research over the years and I do not wish to slight anyone, but to try to list every one who has helped in my research efforts would be an impossible task.

Editor's Note: With this second installment of his descriptive listing of Nebraska Obsolete Bank Notes, Leonard M. Owen concludes his Centinel series on the subject. At the recent Cedar Rapids CSNS Convention, Mr. Owen received the Elston Bradfield Literary Award in recognition of his series.

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STAMPS and SUPPLIES

THE COINFIDENCE CORNER

by Bill Quarles

In this month's column we'll discuss the 1937D Three Legged Buffalo Nickel and respond to a few questions submitted by members. The three legged buffalo is actually an error coin. It has become so popular, however, that it is commonly collected as a regular part of the complete set of the buffalo nickel series.

A clash injured the die and the die was subsequently reworked in an effort to remove the damage. The reworking process created several characteristics of the three legged buffalo which make it quite recognizable.

In photo number 1 we can clearly

see the area of the missing front leg. Note that the leg thins out before disappearing entirely. Following the line where the leg would have been we can also see that the hoof is visible, but weak. The hoof must be present on a genuine 37D three legged buffalo.

Now compare the same area with that of photo number 2, a genuine buffalo which has been altered by the removal of the leg to create the rarer variety. Note the area of the buffalo's beard in the upper left corner of each of these photos. On the genuine three legged buffalo the beard tips are narrow and pointed, with the right tip

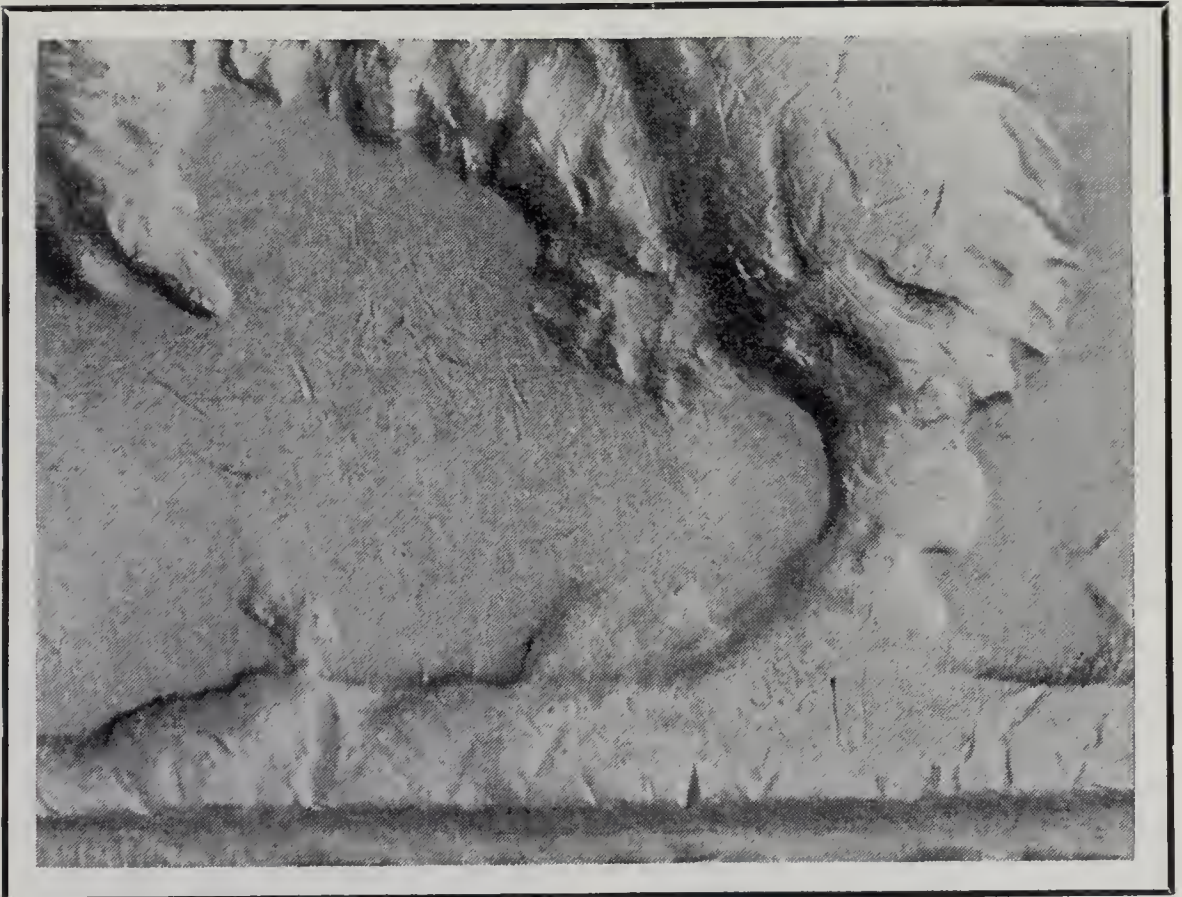


Photo Number 1: Front leg area, genuine 1937D three legged buffalo.



Photo Number 2: Front leg area, altered 1937D buffalo made from normal 1937D.

being longer. On the regular 1937D the beard tips are thicker and more even in length.

In photo number 2, the machining away of the front leg was quite clumsy and numerous scratches are evident. In fact, it appears that additional scratches were purposely added outside the immediate area of the alteration to help conceal evidence of the removal of the leg.

Photo number 3 shows a detail from the area of the rear legs of the genuine three legged buffalo. While it is one of the front legs which is missing on the genuine coin, an examination of the rear legs shows characteristics which are useful in diagnosing whether a coin being examined is genuine. Note especially the right leg. It has a ragged or lumpy appearance. The rear legs on the genuine will be narrower and less well rounded than on a regular 37D which has been altered.



Photo Number 3: Rear leg area, genuine 1937D three legged buffalo.

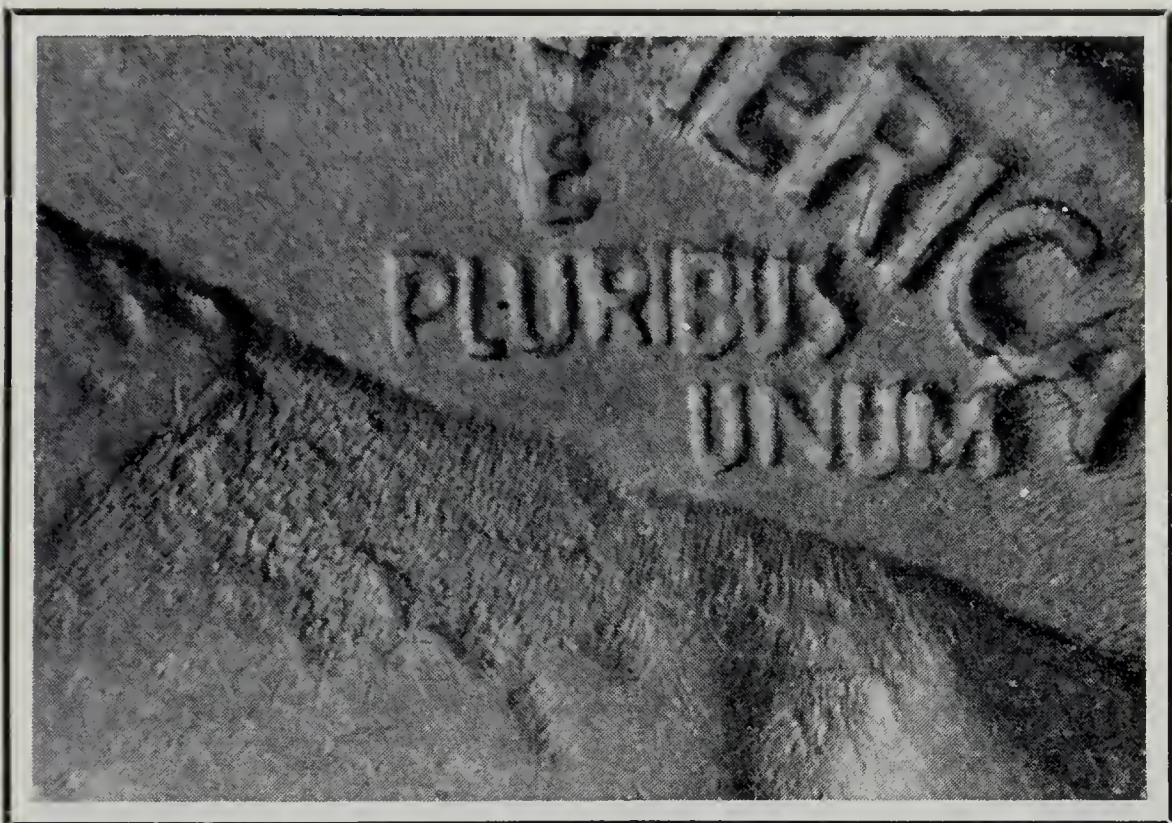


Photo Number 4: Motto area, genuine 1937D three legged buffalo.

Examine also the area near the top and front of the left rear leg. Here we can see evidence of die damage in the form of a group of jagged lumps extending diagonally toward the lower part of the front legs.

Examining the area around the motto is also useful in authenticating the three legged buffalo. On the genuine coin, as shown in photo number 4, the motto will appear more lightly struck than in an altered coin made from a regular 37D.

Compare photo number 4 with the motto in photo number 5, which shows the motto on the regular 1937D buffalo. The motto in the regular coin is more strongly struck. Notice that because of this the "P" in "PLURIBUS" and the "U" in "UNUM" are very close to the back of the Bison. A comparison of the two photos will clearly show the difference.

These are some of the key points to look for when you are evaluating a 37D three legged buffalo. Perhaps the

most easily recognized characteristics are those I've discussed pertaining to the rear leg area.

There are also other characteristics that can be looked for. On the genuine coin the obverse die tends to show roughness about the face and neck, although the degree of this roughness will vary from coin to coin. There may also be a slight doubling apparent at the base of the letters "LIBE" in "LIBERTY." This general roughness of the coin, plus the specific characteristics pictured in the accompanying photos should stand you in good stead to correctly identify and purchase this very collectable error coin.

I mentioned in my first column, and it bears repeating again, that there is nothing mysterious about being able to authenticate coins which are subject to counterfeiting or alteration. Every collector should seek to become knowledgeable about the characteristics of the coins he might want to have in his collection and then seek to apply that

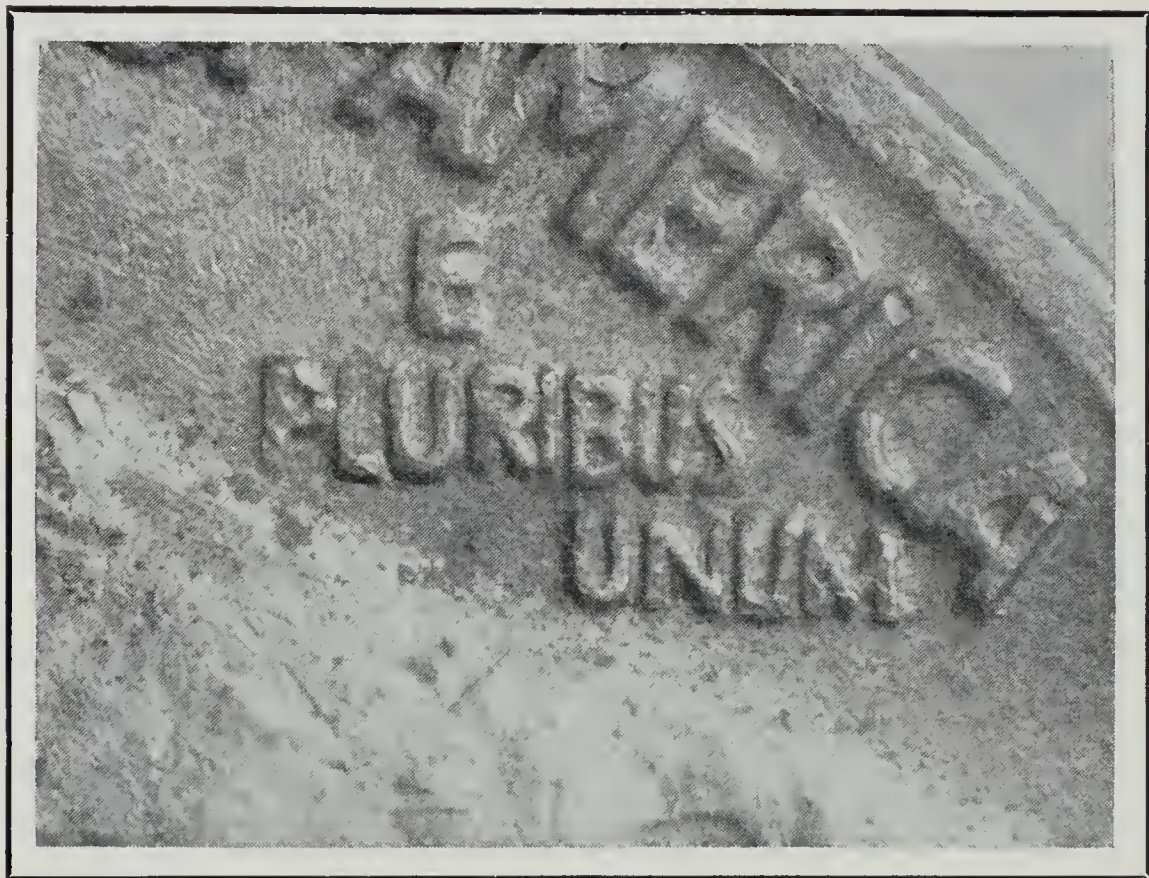


Photo Number 5: Motto area, regular 1937D buffalo, a coin often altered to make a spurious three legged buffalo.

knowledge when examining coins being considered for purchase.

The photographs I use for this feature have been supplied through the courtesy of the **American Numismatic Association Certification Service, 818 North Cascade, Colorado Springs, CO 80901**. These same photographs used here, plus many additional ones, are available for sale from ANACS.

When the time comes that you might consider purchasing a coin which you know to be subject to alterations or counterfeiting, these ANACS photographs would be a very useful tool to educate yourself about die characteristics.

Now for the questions . . .

1. What percentage of high grade 1916D dimes are counterfeit? Are they made primarily in Lebanon?

After checking with ANACS staff members and former staff members,

there seems to be a consensus that about 10 percent of all 16D dimes sent to the ANACS for authentication are altered or counterfeit. Roughly 20 percent of the high grade 16D dimes sent to ANACS are spurious.

The vast majority of the bad coins submitted are altered rather than counterfeited; an altered coin being a genuine coin that through the addition or removal of material to the coin is then misrepresented as another, more valuable date or mint mark; with the counterfeit being a coin made by a private party without government sanction, which is then falsely represented as being a mint product.

The probable source of most of the altered coins is Milwaukee. In fact, a standing joke in dealer circles about the altered 16D dimes is that they are products of the Milwaukee mint, so industrious were our local 16D dime creators rumored to be.

2. Can you suggest some good books on the subject of counterfeit coins?

Counterfeit, Mis-struck, and Unofficial U. S. Coins, by Don Taxay would be a good place to start. I'd also recommend Detecting Altered Coins, by Bert Harsche, and Detecting Counterfeit Coins, Books 1 and 2, by Lonesome John. The Standard Catalog of United

States Altered and Counterfeit Coins, by Virgil Hancock and Larry Spambaurer, would also be useful in your library.

Also, as I mentioned previously, ANACS sells photos of altered and counterfeit coins, as well as photos of the specific characteristics to look for in genuine key date material.

— Bill Quarles

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PEORIA, ILLINOIS — SEPTEMBER 10 - 12, 1982

Illinois Numismatic Association Annual Convention and Coin Show. Peoria, Illinois. Joe Mileham, B&J Coin Shop, 3123 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703. (217) 529-6277.

LIVONIA, MICHIGAN — SEPTEMBER 17 - 19, 1982

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MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — OCTOBER 8 - 10, 1982

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 48th Annual Fall Coin Show, Milwaukee Exposition and Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourne Streets, A. P. (Del) Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Avenue, Shorewood, Wisconsin 53211.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — OCTOBER 15 - 17, 1982

22nd Annual Kentucky State Numismatic Association Coin Show, Holiday Inn Convention Center. Jim LaFever, 3805 Foreman Lane, Louisville, Kentucky 40219.

DES MOINES, IOWA — OCTOBER 15 - 17, 1982

Des Moines Coin Club and Iowa Numismatic Association Annual Coin Show and Convention, Adventuerland Inn. Donald Mark, Box 1, Adel, Iowa 50003.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA — OCTOBER 23 - 24, 1982

Old Fort Coin Club 25th Annual Coin and Stamp Show, Imperial House, 1313 West Washington Center Road. Old Fort Coin Club, Box 11051, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46855.

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS — OCTOBER 24, 1982

Rockford Coin Club 52nd Semi-Annual Coin Show, Sandpiper's Restaurant, 5011 East State Street. Ralph Winquist, 1004 C Street, Rockford, Illinois 61107.

AKRON, OHIO — OCTOBER 23 - 24, 1982

Akron Area Coin Show and Auction, Ramada Inn, I-77 and Route 18 (Medina Road). Ron Nelson, Box 673, Cleveland, Ohio 44122. (216) 338-3182.

HOPKINS, MINNESOTA — OCTOBER 30 - 31, 1982

Minnesota Organizations of Numismatists Annual Coin Show and Convention, Hopkins House. Jerry Swanson, Box 565, Rochester, Minnesota 55901.

DAYTON, OHIO — NOVEMBER 5 - 7, 1982

Semi-Annual Fall Greater Dayton Coin Expo, Dayton Convention Center, 5th and Main. Ron Crouch, 188 Lynnhaven Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45431. (Host to CSNS Board of Governors interim meeting.)

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA — NOVEMBER 13 - 14, 1982

Greater Hiawathaland Coin and Stamp Show. Mayo Civic Auditorium, 30 SE 2nd Avenue. Gerald Swanson, Box 565, Rochester, Minn. 55901.

SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO — NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 1982

Greater Cleveland Area Coin Show, Stouffer's Somerset Inn, 3550 Northfield Road. Ray Wasosky, Box 6, McKean, Pennsylvania 16426.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 26 - 28, 1982

Michigan State Numismatic Society 27th Fall Coin Show and Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel. MSNS, P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — MARCH 25 - 27, 1983

Numismatists of Wisconsin Annual Coin Show and Convention, hosted by South Shore Coin Club, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Robert Krueger, 3159 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216. (414) 643-5775.

RACINE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 17, 1983

Racine Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show, Racine Sheraton Inn. Bill Mross, Box 21, Racine, Wisconsin 53401.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 16 - 19, 1983

Indiana State Numismatic Association Annual Coin Show and Convention, Indiana Convention Center, 100 South Capitol Avenue. Jerry Lebo, Box 44337, Indianapolis Indiana 46204. (317) 637-5116.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 29 - 31, 1983

1983 Mid-America Coin Show, MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn Streets. Kevin Foley, Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388.

HOPKINS, MINNESOTA — OCTOBER 8 - 9, 1983

Minnesota Organization of Numismatists Annual Coin Show and Convention, Hopkins House. Jerry Swanson, Box 565, Rochester, Minn. 55901.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 25 - 27, 1983

Michigan State Numismatic Society 28th Fall Coin Show and Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel. MSNS, Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — APRIL 7 - 10, 1983

Central States Numismatic Society 44th Anniversary Convention. Hyatt Regency Hotel. Helen Sedo, Box 891, Dearborn, Michigan 48121.

RECURRING SHOWS

Chicago, Illinois — Gaslight Coin Show, 1st Sunday of the month, Leaning Tower YMCA, 6300 West Touhy. Ken Saville, Gaslight Coins, 1334 Waukegan, Road, Glenview, Illinois 60025.

Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois — 2nd Sunday of every month. N. O. I. S. E. Monthly Coin Show. Ramada O'Hara Inn, Higgins and Mannheim Roads. Joseph Irmen, Box 424, Wood Dale, Illinois 60191.

Monroe, Michigan — Monroe Coin Show, 2nd Sunday of the month, Holiday Inn near I-75 Dixie Highway exit. Frenchie's Coin and Stamp Mart, 423 West Front Street, Monroe, Michigan 48161.

Cincinnati, Ohio — Third Sunday Monthly Coin and Collectables Show (Auction at 3:30 p.m.). American Legion Hall, 11100 Winton Road, Greenhills, Ohio. Gary Perkins, P. O. Box 39301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45239.

Columbus, Ohio — Second Sunday Coin Show. Holiday Inn North, I-71 and Route 161. Craig E. Heilman, P. O. Box 02131, Columbus, Ohio 43202 (614-888-1759).

FUTURE CSNS CONVENTIONS

1983 — April 7 - 10 Dearborn, Michigan
Chairperson: Helen Sedo, Box 891, Dearborn, Michigan 48121

1984 — April 26 - 29 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Chairman: A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 N. Murray Ave., Shorewood, Wis. 53211

1985 — Dates to be announced Minneapolis, Minnesota

1986 — Dates to be announced Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1987 — Dates to be announced St. Louis, Missouri

NOTE TO CLUB OFFICIALS: Interested in hosting a future CSNS Convention? It is not too early to begin thinking of the future! Submit your letter of invitation to the CSNS Secretary-Treasurer at your earliest convenience. Your request will receive the prompt attention of the Officers and Board of Governors.

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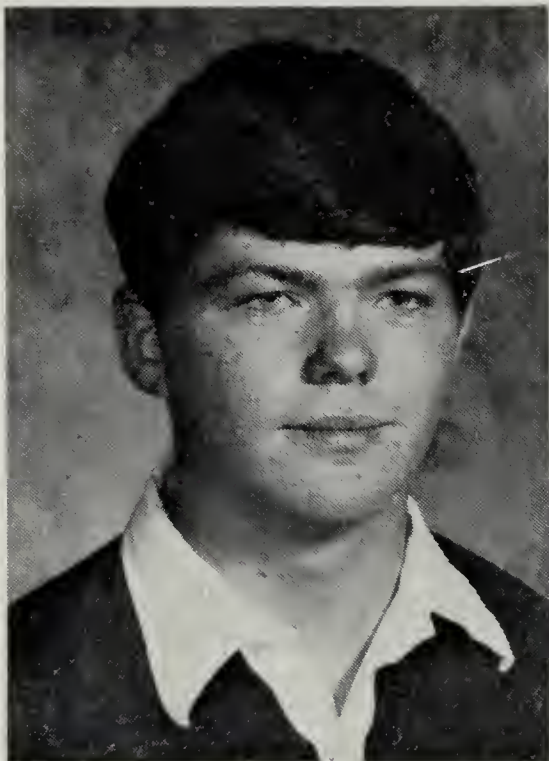
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THE YN PAGE



In some of my pervious columns I've looked at different educational sources and ways the beginning numismatist can increase his or her knowledge of our hobby.

One source frequently overlooked by the beginner is the auction catalogue. Perhaps because of the stress on values in recent years, some people have forgotten that auction catalogues are much more than a means of following current market prices.

While some auction houses produce little more than a numbered listing of the material consigned to them, others stand out for publishing what amounts to future reference sources for the material in their sales.

If you'd like to learn about the history of the Confederate States of America half dollar restrikes, for example, a concise and illuminating explanation can be found in Bower's and

Ruddy's Gerry Nelson Collection Catalogue, from the recent Cedar Rapids Central States Convention. This same catalogue also contains detailed articles on the 1792 oval engraved Washington peace medal and the 1714 Glouster Token.

The 1981 American Numismatic Association Convention Auction was also catalogued by Bower's and Ruddy. For the student of numismatics with a desire to increase his knowledge of encased postage, pattern coins, or Washington medals, this catalogue will provide enjoyable reading.

The February John R. Fraser Sale, catalogued by Superior Galleries, contained one of the broadest sections of rare fractional currency essays to come on the market in many years. Not only will the prices realized for that sale tell future generations what the 1982 market was for such material, but the explanations of the different pieces will help numismatists learn more about these elusive rarities. Since many of the items are pictured in the catalogue, it can also be used to attribute and verify items examined at a future date.

The student of California fractional gold will enjoy the hours spent studying Kurt Krueger's 1980 Numismatists of Wisconsin and Garden State Convention sales, where some of the broadest offerings of these tiny bits of Western history to come on the market up to that time, can be found.

From the standpoint of the numismatist, one of the nicest aspects of the higher quality auction catalogues is the fact that the auction houses will generally give a more detailed explanations for the unusual material which will be difficult to uncover information

about elsewhere. The better catalogues are a storehouse of numismatic information waiting to be tapped by the beginner.

I've mentioned only a few of the catalogues and just three of the auction houses that publish well researched explanations of the material they are offering for sale. In **Coin World** there is a schedule of future

auction dates and the companies sponsoring these events. Most offer subscription plans for their catalogues in the \$15 - \$25 per year range. The fee will include the prices realized after the sale. Every numismatic library would be strengthened by having the catalogues of at least one good auction house on its shelves.

Shawn Duthie

LEGAL TENDER

by Bill Mross

With this issue, **The Centinel** continues its numismatic legal advice column. The author, attorney Bill Mross of Racine, Wis., is currently serving as President of the Racine Numismatic Society. Readers should remember that the advice in this feature is not intended to take the place of contact with your attorney in the event a problem similar to one covered in this column might arise.

The answers Bill gives are based on Wisconsin law, which may not yield the same results as the law in your own state. Also, what may seem to the lay person to be trifling differences in the facts of a case may in fact have a significant bearing on the outcome of actual litigation.

If you have any questions you'd like to see discussed in a future "Legal Tender" feature, please write to: Bill Mross, P. O. Box 21, Racine, Wisconsin 53401.

1.) Dear "Legal Tender": I operate a coin store in a community requiring me to record a description for and maintain a record of all items I purchase across the counter from the public. Some time ago a gold and diamond bracelet was brought into the store by a young woman. I purchased it, paying by check, and recorded all

the information required by local regulations.

Prior to selling the item, I even called the police department to inquire if they had a report of such an item being stolen; a step I am not required to take by the pertinent regulations. They told me they had no such report.

I subsequently sold the bracelet, also across the counter, to a customer in my store for cash. The identity of the purchaser was unknown to me.

Roughly three months after I had sold the bracelet I was contacted by the local police, who informed me that the bracelet had been stolen at the time I purchased it. They agreed that I had acted in good faith and was an innocent victim.

My problem is this. The owner of the bracelet is now suing me for a sum equal to what I sold it for, claiming that since she had legal title to it at the time I sold it, she is also entitled to whatever I realized from it. Can she collect?

— Name and address withheld.

She might very well be able to. This is kind of a close case and could turn out either way. We have entered into what is called the void/voidable area. By this we mean that if the person who sold to you had a void title (i.e., one

that was non-existent in the first place), as this young woman did because of the theft, you did not acquire any title to the jewelry at all and would be answerable in damages.

If, on the other hand, the young woman had a voidable title (i.e., one that would have to be cancelled out by some action on the part of the true owner, as where she had paid for the bracelet with a bad check and the deal was OK with the owner until the check bounced) and you had no reason to suspect and did not participate in the spurious transaction whereby your seller obtained the item, then you should prevail.

I think that in your court case I would emphasize your contact with the appropriate law enforcement agency prior to your disposition of the item. This just might tip the equities in your favor. As a suggestion to lawmakers, it might be wise in jurisdictions having such legislation to insulate from civil liability purchasers of such items so long as they have followed the appropriate procedures to ensure that theft has not occurred.

2.) Dear "Legal Tender": I own a metal detector and enjoy searching for lost coins and jewelry with it. Some time ago I stopped at a farm in the country and asked the permission of the owner to search around the site of an abandoned house on the farmer's property. He laughed about how city folks didn't have much to do with their time and said that I was welcome to look.

Well, after searching for about an hour I got a strong reading around the foundation, and upon digging down found a small pouch containing what appeared to be the remains of long-rotten currency plus five \$20 gold pieces.

As I was examining the coins the farmer came along and said that this was his lucky day, and went on to tell

me the story about how his grandfather had buried some coins on the property years back and then was unable to find them. He said these must be the coins and that they were rightfully his. Apparently the grandfather died in 1942 and this farmer is the sole surviving member of the family.

Since I've never found anything worth more than a dollar or so, a problem like this has never arisen in my previous searches. I did have the farmer's permission to be on his property, but neither of us had said anything about who would own the items I found. I assumed that I would, but now he claims the coins are his. I still have physical possession, but he has threatened to sue me. Who is the rightful owner of the coins under these circumstances?

J. N., Nevada, Mo.

If I were you, I would gently return the coins to the farmer to avert a lawsuit in which you would be the decided loser. A landowner possesses that which is attached to or buried in the land, as distinct from that which lies loose atop the land. The landowner is favored in these situations, especially if the found item is a part of the soil.

The coins would fall under the heading of mislaid property (i.e., that which has been placed or secreted somewhere deliberately and the locus later forgotten) as opposed to lost property (i.e., that which has simply been dropped who knows where in the first place), and the above rule hence applies.

Attention Coinshooters — When going out in this fashion, be sure to strike some sort of bargain with the landowner as to the disposition of anything that you might come up with, together with any possibly fruitful locations for hunting metals. In this manner you would likely come out vastly better than J. N. and his agricultural ingrate.

3.) Dear "Legal Tender": I prudently enough keep my numismatic collection in a safety deposit box. I am wondering about what would happen to the box in the event of my death. Would it be sealed until completion of the probate of my estate? Who would have access to it? Should I put it in my wife's name? What about in both of our names? I would greatly appreciate any guidance that you could furnish me with. Thank you!!

T. C., Milwaukee, Wis.

Old "Legal Tender" isn't going to get involved in this one. Each state has its own regulations as to what happens to a safety deposit box and its contents in the event of the owner's

demise. In addition to that, each bank may impose its own regulations in such a situation which may be even more restrictive than the state law.

I would simply urge each reader to contact his/her own bank and make inquiry as to what their practice is. Please remember that banks tend to differ on this score, so if you are dissatisfied with what your own facility tells you, you should be sure to follow the old maxim "Shop Around" in hopes of locating a depository whose policies are more in accord with your desires.

'Til next time!!

Bill Mross, "Legal Tender"

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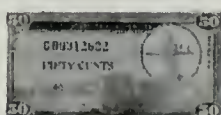
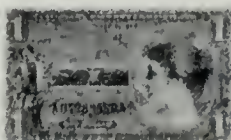
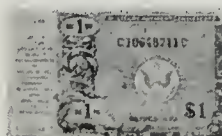
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521	8.00	12.00	30.00	50.00	80.00	WTD All Grades	WTD All Grades	
541	2.50	4.00	15.00	35.00	120.00	WTD All Grades	WTD All Grades	
591	30.00	40.00	140.00	275.00	100.00	WTD All Grades	WTD All Grades	
611	2.50	4.00	10.00	20.00	45.00	500.00	350.00	
641	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	10.00	100.00	160.00	
651	Not Issued	Not Issued	Not Issued	WTD All Grades	15.00	175.00	200.00	
Series	5¢	10¢	25¢	50¢	\$1	\$5	\$10	\$20
661	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.50	\$3.00	\$700.00	\$500.00
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MY QUEST FOR A COIN

by Dominic Garetto J-3611

It started one day in early 1979 as I was paging through my **Standard Catalog of World Coins**. As I started into the Japanese section, I came to a sudden stop. There, before my eyes, was one of the most interesting coins I had ever seen — a copper 100 mon piece from the later Tokugawa Shogunate. It wasn't really a beautiful looking coin, at least not to the average person. But remember, beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and in my eyes it was a beauty.

This coin symbolized to me the mystery of the Orient, with an odd shape and inscriptions totally new and different in my experience. The moment I saw it, I knew I had to have it for my collection.

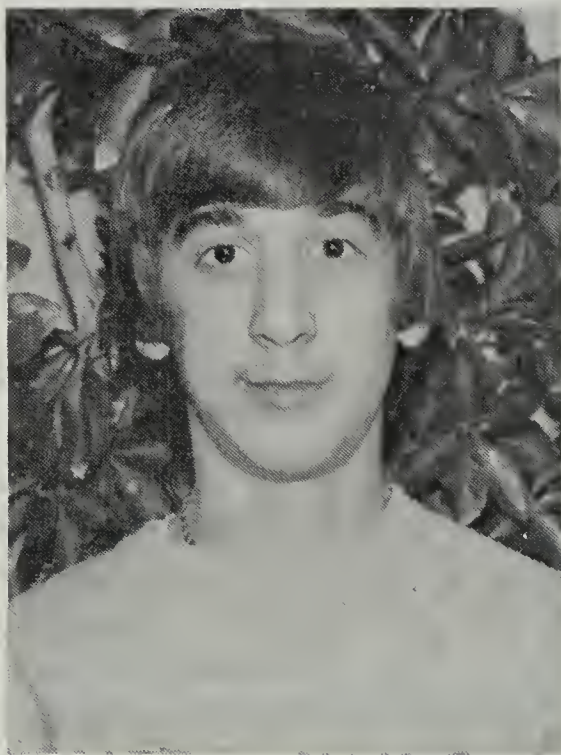
The catalog listed the coin as able to be had in excellent condition for only a couple of dollars — a small price to pay for such a piece from a country so fascinating. Immediately, my quest began.

I started by sketching the coin on a piece of paper, and taking down notes and descriptions. Now I had something to go on when I didn't have my reference book handy.

Next, I visited the local coin shop. The owner has always aided me in my collecting needs, but she didn't have what I was looking for, so I had to look elsewhere.

I didn't know much about mail order then, as I was not familiar with any numismatic publications, so I didn't try that approach.

There were only two more local possibilities left. The monthly coin club meetings, and the coin club's Spring Coin Show.



Dominic Garetto

I tried the coin club meetings, but nothing turned up in auction or in the stock of attending dealers. So it was on to the coin show.

The show started about 9:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning, but I wasn't able to make it there until about 1:00 p.m. I started walking around the bourse area, stopping at each dealer's table. I asked each to see their Japanese stock, sometimes for the exact coin. It didn't take long — there were only about 20 dealers, and very few had any Japanese at all.

I did come close with one, though. As I advanced toward his table, I spotted a cardboard display with several Oriental coins in it, and several empty spaces. One of the spaces looked like the shape of the 100 mon piece! I stepped forward and asked the dealer if he had any more like



**Japanese 100 Mon piece,
1835-1870, obverse.**

that one. He replied that he sold his only one, and had no more like it. What a disappointment! My quest was retired — but only temporarily, as I would soon find out.

Why temporarily? Because our family planned a vacation in Florida that year. That meant I would get a crack at the coin shops down there.

Soon school was out, the summer months came, and our family departed for Florida. Shortly after I got there, I looked for nearby coin shops in the Yellow Pages. The next day was devoted entirely to visiting shops. Some had a few Japanese pieces, while most had very little Oriental stock at all. The day was a total zero for finding the coin.

That night, I scanned the pages again, trying to turn up more possibilities. I tried a few numbers, but with no success. Finally, one dealer I called said that he had some Oriental material, and one of the coins was Japa-

nese, although he wasn't sure of anything beyond that. He said he would bring them to his coin shop the next day. It was a long shot, but it was all I had.

So, the next day, off I went to his coin shop. When I arrived, I told him I had called him the night before, and asked about Japanese coins. He remembered my call, and soon had an album filled with foreign coins laid out on the counter. I look through it, but didn't find any Japanese coins.

He took a paper sack and pulled out a small pouch of coins — but these were all from the Native States of India. He then took out another coin, saying, "This is the only Japanese piece I have." He handed me an oval coin with Oriental characters, looking very similar to the 100 mon piece I saw in my reference book. I took out my drawing, and it matched perfectly!

To this day, it is one of the most prized pieces in my collection.



**Japanese 100 Mon piece,
1835-1870, reverse.**

**A Numismatic Autobiography
of the Author,
Dominic J. Garetto, CSNS J-3611**

I am Dominic Garetto, age 14, and attend the 8th grade at Cotter Junior High School in Winona, Wisconsin. I am a member of the Winona Coin Club, the Minnesota Organization of Numismatists, the Central States Numismatic Society, and the American Numismatic Association.

I have completed the ANA's Young Numismatists Correspondence Course, and the basic portion of the Roman Coin Project.

My collecting interests are many, but I specialize in the coins of Japan. Other interests include football, tennis, water-skiing, snow-skiing, and photography.

The history and geography that I have learned through numismatics has helped me in school, and made me a more knowledgeable person.

Editor's Note: Subsequent to submitting his article, the author was selected as the recipient of the 1982 CSNS Young Numismatist Scholarship to attend the American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

THE BOOK CORNER

**The Complete Encyclopedia of
Mexican Paper Money.**

**By Duane Douglas, Claudio Verrey
and Alberto Hidalgo**

**Published by Krause Publications
700 East State St., Iola, Wis. 54990**

Krause Publications latest numismatic book is **The Complete Encyclopedia of Mexican Paper Money**. Although the **Standard Catalogue of World Paper Money**, also published by Krause, will continue to be the basic reference source for collectors of world paper, the publication of the Mexican book fills a need for more detailed information in this specialized area of collecting.

The book lives up to its title and provides a great deal of information which was previously unpublished. The comprehensive indexing system will prove particularly useful in identifying some of the more obscure issues from smaller towns and haciendas. The numbering system has been cross referenced with the established Gaytan system.

The student of Mexican paper will find over 6500 listings from roughly 850 note issuing authorities. Valuations

are given in up to four grades.

The book includes all known issues from 1913 to the present, notes issued by private banks from 1865 to 1914, and military, government, and private issues of the Mexican Revolution.

The 2000 photographs make the book a particularly useful guide in note identification.

Note Issuing National Banks

By Don Kelly

Published by The Paper Money

Institute, Box 85, Oxford, Ohio 45056

If you've ever wondered how many banks in Lawton, Oklahoma issued national bank notes (five), or how many towns across the United States named Madison (twelve) had note issuing banks, Don Kelly's recently published book will have the answers.

This soft cover release contains an alphabetic listing by city name as well as a numeric listing by charter number of all the national banks which issued notes. It is a logical extension of Kelly's earlier book, **National Bank Notes: A Guide with Prices**, and is of a convenient size and weight to carry to coin shows.

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A heavy turnout of Indiana collectors for the annual June Convention of the Indiana State Numismatic Association is evident from the backlog at the registration area.

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